

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1 –13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A method for preventing or ameliorating a decrease in a function of a tissue, wherein the tissue has undergone an ischemia-reperfusion event and the decrease in function is characterized by reversible or irreversible cell damage or cell death, comprising administering to an individual an effective amount of a composition comprising a compound that ~~binds to~~ activates a receptor for glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) in a pharmaceutical carrier.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 14 wherein the compound is a GLP-1 (7-36) amide or a biologically active analog thereof.

16. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein the pharmaceutical carrier is selected from the group consisting of saline, buffered saline, dextrose, water, glycerol, ethanol, lactose, phosphate, mannitol, arginine, trehalose, and combinations thereof.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 14 wherein administering to ~~an~~ the individual ~~in need of treatment~~ is at a dose level of 0.1 pmol/kg/min to 10 pmol/kg/min.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 14 wherein there is concurrent administration of glucose.

19. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein administration commences within 4 hours of an ischemic event.

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 19 wherein administration occurs within 4 hours and is a continuous infusion of the composition.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 14 wherein the ischemic-reperfusion event arises from a medical procedure that is a surgical event selected from the group consisting of cardiac surgical procedures, organ transplants, traumatic limb amputation and reattachment.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 14 wherein a medical procedure involves an ischemic reperfusion event, said event being concurrent with a gut infarct or a myocardial infarct.

23. (cancelled)

24. (currently amended) A method for preventing or ameliorating a decrease in a function of a tissue, wherein the tissue has undergone an ischemia-reperfusion event and the decrease in function is characterized by reversible or irreversible cell damage or cell death, comprising administering to an individual an effective amount of an exendin, ~~or a compound derived therefrom, and a pharmaceutical carrier.~~
25. (previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the exendin is administered at a dose of 0.005 nmol/kg to 20 nmol/kg.
26. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the pharmaceutical carrier is selected from the group consisting of saline, buffered saline, dextrose, water, glycerol, ethanol, lactose, phosphate, mannitol, arginine, trehalose, and combinations thereof.
27. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein there is concurrent administration of glucose.
28. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein administration commences within 4 hours of an ischemic event.
29. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein administration occurs within 4 hours and is a continuous infusion.
30. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the ischemic-reperfusion event arises from a medical procedure that is a surgical event selected from the group consisting of cardiac surgical procedures, organ transplants, traumatic limb amputation and reattachment.
31. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein a medical procedure involves an ischemic reperfusion event, said event being concurrent with a gut infarct or a myocardial infarct.

32. (currently amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising administering an anti-inflammatory ~~reducing an inflammatory response~~.
33. (currently amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising administering an anti-inflammatory ~~reducing an inflammatory response~~.
34. (new) The method of claim 24, wherein the exendin is exendin 3 or exendin 4.
35. (new) A method for preventing or ameliorating organ tissue injury caused by reperfusion of blood flow following a period of ischemia, comprising administering to an individual an effective amount of a compound that activates a receptor for glucagon-like peptide-1.
36. (new) The method of claim 35 wherein the period of ischemia is caused by an event selected from the group consisting of cardiac surgical procedures, organ transplants, traumatic limb amputation and reattachment.
37. (new) The method of claim 35 further comprising administering an anti-inflammatory.
38. (new) The method of claim 35 wherein there is concurrent administration of any one of glucose, potassium or free radical scavenger.
39. (new) The method of claim 35 wherein administration is by subcutaneous or micropressure injection, deep lung insufflation, external or implant pump, depot injection, and other sustained release mechanisms, oral deliver and patch, buccal and other cross skin and membrane mechanism.
40. (new) The method of claim 35 comprising reperfusion therapy.
41. (new) The method of claim 14 comprising reperfusion therapy.
42. (new) The method of claim 24 comprising reperfusion therapy.